GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1766
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2000
ALLEGED COWARDICE ACTS OF ARMY OFFICERS DURING KARGIL CONFLICT
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 40 officers and jawans are reported to be penalised for 'Cowardice' during Kargil conflictwhereas the Army Chief totally absolves the top brass as published in the 'Outlook' weekly magazine dated October 2, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the Commanders who not only escaped from all Censure but also awarded by the Government;

(c) whether the top leadership accuses the middle and junior level officers who led the battle and selectively targeted to cover up their failure; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to upkeep the morale of the middle ranking officers and jawans?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (d): Administrative/disciplinary action has been initiated against eight commissioned officers including one Major General, one Brigadier, one Colonel, one Lieutenant Colonel and four Majors and one junior commissioned officer for various acts of omissions and commissions during Kargil Operation. There is no case against any jawan. The morale of the whole Army is as high, as ever.